

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIE-00 DRC-01

AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

/103 W

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O R 140830Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3794

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

SECDEF WASHDC

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 12483

USINFO ALSO FOR VOA NEWSROOM

USINFO ALSO FOR IEA

BANGKOK FOR HEDGES

BANGKOK AND SAIGON FOR VOA CORRESPONDENTS

STATE S/PRS AND EA/P

CAMBODIAN SITUATIONER

1. THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN THE SITUATION ON ROUTE 4 TO THE SEA WHERE COMMUNIST FORCES STILL OCCUPY A SEVEN-KILOMETER STRECH OF THE ROAD SOUTHWEST OF KOMPONG SPEU. THE ENEMY TUESDAY CONTINUED HIS SHELLING AND GROUND ATTACKS AGAINST GOVERNMENT POSITIONS ON HIGH GROUND JUST OFF THE HIGHWAY.

2. AT KOMPONG CHAM, GOVERNMENT FORCES TUESDAY CONSOLIDATED RECENT GAINS IN AIRPORT PERIMETER EXPANSION OPERATIONS. WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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THE CAPTURE OF KEV RAMOUL THREE KILOMETERS TO THE NORTH.

AND NEAR THE CITY, COMMUNIST GUNNERS SHELLED GOVERNMENT POSITIONS ON THE SOUTHERN DEFENSIVE PERIMETER AS WELL AS AT TONLE BET ON THE EAST BANK OF THE MEKONG OPPOSITE KOMONG CHAM.

3. GOVERNMENT TROOPS FROM THE TH DIVISION OPERATING NORTHWEST OF PHNOM PENH OFF ROUTE 26 UNCOVERED AN ENEMY BASE COMPLEX MONDAY AND CALLED IN AIR STRIKES TUESDAY. A GROUND SEARCH WHICH FOLLOWED FOUND ENEMY TRAINING FACILITIES AND LARGE NUMBERS OF DOCUMENTS. TWO COMMUNIST SOLDIERS WERE KILLED BY THE AIR STRIKES.

4. IN THE ROUTE 2-38 AREA SOUTH OF PHNOM PENH, FANK FORCES HAVE OCCUPIED POSITIONS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE PREK THNAOT RIVER. THEY ALSO REACHED THE INTERSECTION OF ROUTE 2 LEADING SOUTH AND ROUTE 38 LEADING WEST ON WEDNESDAY MORNING.

5. FANK FORCES ENGAGED ENEMY TROOPS AT SIEMREAP ANGKOR TUESDAY KILLING 5 AND AT PREY VENG KILLING 2. A LATE REPORT FROM TAKEO TO THE SOUTH OF PHNOM PENH SAYS THAT 7 COMMUNISTS WERE KILLED IN A SHARP ENGAGEMENT TUESDAY NIGHT WITH GOVERNMENT TROOPS SUFFERING ONLY LIGHT CASUALTIES. SHELLING ATTACKS AGAINST GOVERNMENT POSITIONS WERE REPORTED FROM DISTRICT AND PROVINCIAL CAPITALS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

6. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC AND THE UNITED STATES SIGNED AN AGREEMENT TODAY AUGMENTING THE PRESENT COMMODITY IMPORT PROGRAM (CIP) BY \$2.5 MILLION TO A NEW FISCAL YEAR TOTAL OF \$26.5 MILLION. THE PROGRAM FINANCES ESSENTIAL CIVILIAN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. AND CERTAIN OTHER COUNTRIES. U.S. ECONOMIC AID TO CAMBODIA FOR THE PRESENT FISCAL YEAR SO FAR TOTALS \$96.1 MILLION.

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